



# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street  
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 794-8501

*Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman*  
*Richard C. Straiton, Selectman*  
*Paul R. Szatkowski, Selectman*

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, January 4, 2011  
7:30 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Knickerbocker, Selectman Straiton and Selectman Szatkowski. Also in attendance was Town Counsel Martin J. Lawlor.

**Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance:** First Selectman Knickerbocker called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Public Comments:** None

**Correspondence:** none that did not already relate to an agenda item.

**Minutes of December 7, 2010:** Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**Presentation from Public Site and Building Commission – RFP for Architectural Services and update on Library project.**

Robert Tripi presented the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Architectural Engineering for the Library project to the Board of Selectmen to be reviewed by town counsel and purchasing. Once reviewed, it can be bid.

Selectmen agreed that since timing is important to this project, to hold a Special Meeting later this week to formally approve the RFP so that it could be put out to bid.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to tonight’s agenda, two items under New Business, # 5) Consideration of

appointment – Library Board of Directors and # 6) Consideration of Resolution - STEAP Grant Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel for the Repaving of Town Roads. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**First Selectman Report:** First Selectman Knickerbocker thanked the town highway department and Selectman Straiton, for their efforts during the recent snowstorm (blizzard). First Selectman Knickerbocker also presented the Priority Road List. First Selectman Knickerbocker met with representatives of the two fire departments, police department and public works department and a consensus was reached as to what the priority road list should be. He noted that the roads on the list total more than the two million dollars approved in Phase 1 of the Road Renewal Plan; it is hoped that if the bid prices come in lower, more roads on the list can be accomplished. If the bid prices come in higher, then not all the roads on the list can be addressed in this phase.

Selectman Straiton advised that work continues on readying the teen center (temporary) space; the exterior door installation will be rescheduled and he does anticipate that by month's end the space will be ready for the center to be opened.

Selectman Szatkowski advised that the Ad-Hoc Transfer Station Committee will be meeting tomorrow evening and anticipates having a report ready for the Board of Selectmen at the next meeting.

## **New Business**

### **1.) Consideration of establishing date for Annual Town Budget Meeting**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to establish the date of Monday, May 2, 2011 as the Annual Town Budget Meeting.

### **2.) Consideration of land donation on Dodgingtown Road**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Bethel accept the offer to obtain ownership of seven certain pieces or parcels of land currently owned by James Anthony Hoyt, Janet M. Hoyt and Walter E. Whitton Trustee located on northerly side of Dodgingtown Road, containing 16.41 acres of land, more or less, with five parcels having an address known as Dodgingtown Road and two parcels having addresses of 110 Dodgingtown Road and 114 Dodgingtown Road respectively, collectively known as the "Dodgingtown Road Properties"; and, that this matter be referred to the Board of Finance for approval of the same pursuant to C6-4.C. of the Charter, with an anticipated Special

Town Meeting date of Tuesday, February 15, 2011, if so approved by the Board of Finance.

And, that the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes and C6-4.C of the Charter hereby refer the offer that the Town of Bethel accept ownership of the real property known as the Dodgingtown Road Properties to the Planning & Zoning Commission for its comment and report.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**3.) Consideration of referral to the Board of Finance - Old Hawleyville Road – Road Widening.**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Bethel accept the offer to obtain ownership of a certain strip of land from Anna Franc, Sophia Shail, John Franc, Ambrose Franc, Jacob Franc and the Estate of Frank Franc located on easterly side of Old Hawleyville Road, commencing at the intersection of Old Hawleyville Road and Plumtrees Road and continuing south on Old Hawleyville Road, containing 9,791 Sq. Ft. plus or minus; and, that this matter be referred to the Board of Finance for approval of the same pursuant to C6-4.C of the Charter, with an anticipated Special Town Meeting date of Tuesday, February 15, 2011, if so approved by the Board of Finance.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**4.) Consideration of draft proposal – Blight Ordinance**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to table the proposed ordinance to allow the Board of Selectmen time to review and comment on the proposed ordinance. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Town Counsel Martin J. Lawlor reported that he is also working on an ordinance for fees and penalties associated with various town ordinances.

**5.) Consideration of appointment – Library Board of Directors**

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to appoint Mary O’Leary to the vacant seat on the Library Board of Directors. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved. This fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Jim Forman and the term expires on January 6, 2014.

**6.) Consideration of resolution - STEAP Grant Agreement Between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel for the Repaving of Town Roads**

First Selectman Knickerbocker explained that this Resolution pertains to the Steap Grant awarded to the Town in 2009 for the repaving of roads in the sewer project. The funds have already been spent on this project; this is just a reimbursement. We can't get the money, however, until this Finance Agreement with the State DOT is signed.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, that:

RESOLVED, that Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman, be, and hereby is authorized to sign the agreement entitled: STEAP Grant Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Bethel for the Repaving of Town Roads.

Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to allocate as appropriate, monies used to offset the paving costs associated with the Stony Hill Sewer Project. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary